

INFORMATION ABOUT:



Requirements for Locating and Maintaining Unpatented Mining Claims

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

5353 Yellowstone Road
P.O. Box 1828
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828

Telephone 307-775-6256
Fax 307-775-6129

DETERMINING LAND STATUS

It is the responsibility of a prospective mineral claimant to determine if the lands he wishes to locate or claim are open to location under the mining laws. Visit the local BLM office or the BLM State Office and check maps, the BLM Master Title Plats, and files. Check mining claim recordation information at the local BLM office and/or County courthouse. Information on the status of most federally owned land in Wyoming can be obtained from the official public land records on file at the BLM Wyoming State Office in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Ownership of claims top filed on other claims will be determined through civil court action.

Mining claims located on closed lands are null and void from the beginning, and trespass action may be brought against the claimant.

LOCATING (STAKING) CLAIMS

Post location notices at point of discovery of locatable minerals as soon as discovery occurs. This should be a conspicuous place.

For placer claims, erect monuments at each claim corner to mark the location distinctly on the ground within 90 days of location. The maximum size of a placer claim is 20 acres per individual claimant (up to 160 acres).

For lode claims, erect monuments (six (6) monuments are required for each claim) at each claim corner and in the center of the side lines to mark the location distinctly on the ground within 60 days of location. Lode claims are limited to 1500 feet in length and 600 feet in width, 300 feet on either side of the centerline.

RECORDING CLAIMS

Lode claims should be filed in the County courthouse in which they are located within 60 days of the date of location. Placer claims should be filed in the County within 90 days of the date of location. A County recording fee is required.

Claims, both lode and placer, must be filed with the BLM State Office within 90 days of the date of location. A \$10.00 filing fee per claim is required at the time of location. For 1993 and 1994, \$100.00 is due at the time of recording with BLM. Claims not timely filed with the BLM are unacceptable and void.

FILING RENTAL FEE OR NOTICE OF INTENT TO HOLD CLAIMS

Effective October 5, 1992, legislation was enacted requiring a \$100 per claim rental fee to replace the annual assessment work. The new rental fee is effective for all claims during the 1993 and 1994 assessment years and it is in lieu of and replaces the annual assessment. The rental fee is due in the BLM State Office on or before August 31, 1993, \$200.00 per claim.

Claimants holding 10 or fewer claims may qualify for the small miners exemption from paying the rental fee.

Any claim that has not had the rental fee of \$200.00 per claim paid, or have not qualified for the exemption, on or before August 31, 1993, will be declared abandoned and void by operation of the law.

Rental fees are refundable if the claims are null and void from the beginning or if abandoned and void if filed after the ninety (90) days filing period. The filing fees (\$10 for new and \$5 for annual filings) are not refundable.

When a deferment of assessment is filed, a notice of intent to hold the claim must be filed at the same time with the filing fee of \$5.00 per claim.

State statute requires the filing of Proof of Assessment Work in the County in which the claim is located within 60 days of the work being done. A County recording fee is required.

SELLING OR TRANSFERRING CLAIMS

Sale or transfer of mining claims (all or part) must be recorded with the BLM State Office within 60 days of the action. A \$5.00 recording fee per claim is required.

ABANDONING OR RELINQUISHING MINING CLAIMS

Although not required, notification to the BLM of intentionally abandoned or relinquished claims would be appreciated. Such notification should include the BLM WMC serial number. No Federal recording fee is required.

FOR SPECIFIC MINING CLAIM INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT REQUIRED DOCUMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Mining Claim Recordation (925)
5353 Yellowstone Road (82009)
P.O. Box 1828
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828
(307) 775-6143 or 775-6128